

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MANAGU 03376 101731Z

64

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 AID-20 PC-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-15 COME-00 EB-11 LAB-06 SIL-01 NIC-01 OPR-02

OMB-01 CU-04 IGA-02 SNM-02 SY-10 AGR-20 DEAE-00

JUSE-00 TRSE-00 RSR-01 SCS-03 SCA-01 /178 W

----- 057063

R 101515Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2188

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANAGUA 3376

USCINCSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PGOV, ELAB, NU

SUBJECT: POLITICAL SUMMARY-JULY 28-AUGUST 9, 1973

REF: MANAGUA 3250

1. LABOR UNREST CONTINUES TO SPREAD-THE COUNTRY'S
LABOR PROBLEMS PERSIST. IN ADDITION TO ONGOING STRIKES
AT FABRITEX AND METASA (MANAGUA 3359), SEVENTY OF
THE APPROXIMATELY NINETY EMPLOYEES IN THE INSTALLATION
DIVISION OF SIEMENS CENTROAMERICANO WENT ON STRIKE
MORNING OF AUGUST9. THE WORKERS' PRINCIPAL DEMAND IS
FOR A SALARY INCREASES A GROUP PURPORTEDLY REPRESENTING
WORKERS FROM THE THREE PLANTS HAVE FORMED A "COORDINATING
COMMITTEE FOR STRKE SOLIDARITY" CALLING FOR UNIFIED
SUPPORT FOR THEIR DEMANDS FROM THE LABOR SECTOR AND
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MANAGU 03376 101731Z

CONVENING A GENERAL MEETING AUGUST 11 IN MANAGUA.

2. STUDENT INVOLVED IN FABRITEX STRIKE IMPRISONED-

A STUDENT AT THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF NICARAGUA (UNAN) WHOSE BROTHER WORKS AT FABRITEX WAS ARRESTED BY THE NATIONAL GUARD ON AUGUST 1 AND PROMPTLY SENTENCED TO SIX MONTHS IMPRISONMENT FOR PASSING OUT PAMPHLETS SUPPORTING THE STRIKE. A THIRD YEAR STUDENT IN SOCIAL SERVICE, HER CASE HAS AROUSED CONSIDERABLE SYMPATHY WITH UNAN STUDENTS WHO REPORTEDLY DECLARED A PARTIAL STRIKE PROTESTING THE HARSH "INCOMMUTABLE" SENTENCE. NOTED CRIMINAL LAWYER AQUILES CENTENO PEREZ, WHO ATTAINED NOTORIETY FOR HIS DEFENSE OF STUDENTS AND FSLN MEMBERS, HAS APPEALED THE SENTENCE WHICH HE CALLS "ARBITRARY" AND "AN ACT OF VENGEANCE AND PROVOCATION AGAINST STUDENTS AND WORKERS". HER RELEASE HAS ALSO BEEN DEMANDED BY THE "COORDINATING COMMITTEE" REFERRED TO ABOVE.

3. THE NEW AGUERO APPEARS-IN HIS FIRST PUBLIC APPEARANCE

SINCE EARLY JUNE, DR. FERNANDO AGUERO ADDRESSED A POLITICAL MEETING AT RIVAS AUGUST 5. LIVING UP TO HIS NEW "NATIONALIST AND REVOLUTIONARY " BILLING DR. AGUERO LASHED OUT CHARGING THE SOMOZA REGIME WITH "CORRUPTION AND INEFFECTIVENESS," THE AMERICAN AMBASSADOR WITH "INTERVENTION" AND THE USG WITH FOLLOWING A POLICY OF "SUPPORTING THE SOMOZA". RIVAS WAS LEFT WITH LASTING IMPRESSIONS OF THE RALLY SINCE THE COMPETING AGUERO AND PAGUAGA FACTIONS PAINTED UP THE TOWN WITH THEIR RESPECTIVE RECRIMINATIONS.

4. SOMOCISTAS CALL FOR NEW LIBEL LAW-IN RECENT WEEKS

CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT AND LIBERAL PARTY SECRETARY CORNELIO HUECK HAS ACTIVELY PRESSED FOR PASSAGE OF A TOUGHER AND MORE EXTENSIVE LIBEL LAW. HUECK CREATED A SENSATION LAST YEAR WHEN HE CALLED FOR "SOCIALIZATION" OF THE PRESS AND OTHER MEDIA. GENERAL SOMOZA, WHO HAD BEEN ABROAD AT THE TIME, RETURNED TO DENY THAT HUECK WAS SPEAKING FOR THE PARTY AND TO SQUASH FURTHER STATEMENTS ON THE SUBJECT. WITH HUECK AND OTHER GON OFFICIALS UNDER CONSTANT ATTACK IN OPPOSITION LA PRENSA FOR ALLEGED PROFITEERING FROM THE RECONSTRUCTION AND OTHER SHADY DEALS, SOMOCISTA
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 MANAGU 03376 101731Z

CIRCLES ARE EXPRESSING INCREASED INTEREST IN POSSIBLE COUNTER MEASURES. MINISTER OF GOVERNMENT MARIN, WHO HAS JURISDICTION OVER SUCH MATTERS, IS SEEKING COPIES OF US LIBEL LAWS IN CONNECTION WITH A STUDY OF POSSIBLE LEGISLATION. CONCEIVABLY, THIS SUBJECT COULD ALSO BE DEALT WITH IN THE NEW CONSTITUTION.

5. ALBUERNE DEPARTS FOR CHILE-CONTROVERSIAL CUBAN EXILE

GENERAL ALBUERNE FERNANDEZ (MANAGUA 3131) WAS QUIETLY USHERED OUT OF THE COUNTRY BY CHILEAN EMBASSY OFFICIALS ON AUGUST 2 ENROUTE TO CHILE. ALBUERNE, A SELF-PROCLAIMED ANTI-CASTROITE WHO IS ACCUSED OF BEING A CUBAN AGENT AND BETRAYER OF THE BAY OF PIGS INVASION, WAS IMPRISONED FOR EIGHT YEARS BY THE GON. HS ESCAPED LAST MONTH AND SOUGHT POLITICAL ASYLUM AT THE CHILEAN AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE. THE CHILEAN GOVERNMENT REPORTEDLY AGREED TO ADMIT ALUBERNE AS AN "UNDOCUMENTED ALIEN" RATHER THAN A POLITICAL ASYLEE AND PROVIDED HIM WITH TRAVEL PAPERS. OBVIOUSLY ANXIOUS TO GET HIM OFF ITS HANDS, THE GON PROMPTLY GRANTED AN EXIT VISA.

6. POLICE SEIZE HUGE QUANTITY OF MARIJUANA-ON AUGUST 5 AGENTS OF THE NARCOTICS DIVISION OF THE MANAGUA POLICE SEIZED APPROXIMATELY 500 POUNDS OF MARIJUAN WHICH WAS GROWING ON A LARGE PLOT OF LAND NEAR MASAYA. THE ESTIMATED VALUE OF THE MARIJUANA ON THE LOCAL MARKET IS 70 THOUSAND DOLLARS. POLICE ARE INVESTIGATING REPORTS THAT SEVERAL FOREIGNERS, POSSIBLY INCLUDING U S CITIZENS, WERE INVOLVED IN THE OPERATION. THE NEWLY RECONSTITUTED NARCOTICS DIVISION HAS RECEIVED CONSIDERABLE FAVORABLE PUBLICITY FOR THIS MAJOR SEIZURE.
SHELTON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 AUG 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: elyme
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973MANAGU03376
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS SHELTON
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: MANAGUA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730845/aaaabhgs.tel
Line Count: 139
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: MANAGUA 3250
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: elyme
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <18-Jan-2002 by thigpegh>; APPROVED <12 FEB 2002 by elyme>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POLITICAL SUMMARY-JULY 28-AUGUST 9, 1973
TAGS: PINT, PGOV, ELAB, NU
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005